

Remarks

Claims 3 and 5-8 have been rejected under U.S.C. 35 §112, second paragraph, because of insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations of the claims. This defect is corrected by the current amendment of independent claim 1. Withdrawal of the §112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 3 and 5-8 is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, U.S. 6,523,641, in view of K.V. Ray, U.S. 3,282,375. In light of the current amendment of claim 1, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4, and 9-19 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, claim 1 is rewritten to include all of the limitations of claim 2, which is now canceled. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 2, 4, and 9-19 is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, , 14, and 19 are also amended to correct typographical and other minor errors, no new matter being introduced by these amendments.

Claims 1 and 3-19 are now in this case, whose prompt allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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